IT WAS NOT A UFO!

To some folks, like me, it could have been a UFO (unidentified flying object), but when James Ford, Jr. found this strange looking "thing" in his pasture Thursday of last week and brought it by the office of the Times-Virginian you could easily identify it by the word tag on the object.

Ford is shown above with the Radiosonde he found in his pasture Thursday. The name "Radiosonde", U. D. Department of Commerce, NOAA National Weather Service was printed on the side of the part of the instrument held in his right hand, in the left hand is what is left of a parachute type part of the same instrument. Also written on the instrument was "This weather instrument known as Radiosonde was released to measure the temperature, pressure, humidity and winds at various heights above ground. "It operates as a radio transmitter tracked to a height which above 17 miles. Also was a request that if found in the United States, please take it to any Post Office and the postal personnel will in turn mail it to the proper address, in time it will be usuable again according to the weather service.

Ford was on his way to the Appomattox Post Office to turn the Radiosonde over to them for mailing.

News of Christ's Birth First Told to Shepherds

"And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night".

So begins the scriptural account of the most thrilling announcement ever made to mankind: the birth of Jesus. It was not made, interestingly enough, to the rich and powerful or even to one of the many prophets that the tiny country of Israel seemed to produce in such abundance during Biblical times.

The "good news" that the Messiah had at last come to a waiting world was first announced to a group of shepherds tending their flock through the night, St. Luke tells us. Even though Christ was probably not born during the winter, when we traditionally celebrate His birth (scientists believe that it actually occurred in the springtime) the shepherds were probably doing their best to keep warm in the chill night air; one can imagine them huddled around a fire, perhaps making the lonely hours pass with occasional conversation.

Suddenly, there is a dazzling sight; so dazzling that, St. Luke tells us, "they were sore afraid". The angel that appeared in the midst of them sought to reassure them, saying "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people".

The angel describes the Christ Child to the awe-struck shepherds and soon they see an even more dazzling sight . . . a multitude of the heavenly host praising God.

With the words of the angels echoing in their ears — "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" — the amazed shepherds decide that they will go into Bethlehem and see this wonderful event for themselves. And so they went to Bethlehem "with haste", the scriptures say, to find Mary and Joseph with the Christ Child lying in a manger.

No further mention is made of those shepherds in the scriptures . . . they appear on the horizon at a momentous time in history, only to disappear.

New touches bring color to Christmas table

Every day can be a holiday through the Christmas season. A little imagination goes a long way in keeping your family full of that festive spirit. . .

Sprinkle a touch of candied fruit into hot oatmeal for a breakfast treat.

Give your favorite fruit salad that holiday look with a sprinkle of pomegranate seeds.

Cut bells from slices of canned cranberry sauce when serving.

Candy canes make flavorful stirrers in cups of hot cocoa or tea.

Year-round favorite casseroles have a holiday look topped with a cheese star.

Place a waxed paper stencil of a Christmas tree over a bowl of potatoes or rice . . . sprinkle with chopped parsley . . . remove stencil.

Pimento poinsettias make colorful garnishes on any one of many dishes or bordering a filled platter.

Addressing a long list of Christmas cards can really be fun! Gather the family around the table and keep them happily at work with cookies and hot fruit punch!

Ever try pancakes poured onto the griddle in Christmas tree shapes? It takes a steady hand and concentration, but think how they'll delight your family.

Tempting scent to holiday candles

You have only to light a candle to fill your home with the tempting smells of holiday fare. Cranberries, gingerbread, nut bread waft through the air whetting family appetites. Hollyberry and fresh pine scented candles add to natural greenery and give an elegant touch to a mantle or dinner table. Scented candles, newly available, add to the festive mood of Christmas. To make candles last through the holiday season here are some suggestions:

- ★ Tapers on a dinner table should be at lip or chin level. The soft glow is flattering to all.
- ★ When blowing candles out hold your finger in front of the flame to keep the hot wax from spattering.
- ★ Scratching through the outer layer of wax with your fingernail, will release additional fragrance from scented candles.
- ★ Store candles by laying them flat in a dark, dry place. For slow and even burning, place candles in refrigerator overnight before using.

Gift Idea:

Books can be welcome holiday gifts for both lazy and avid readers. Those who frequently read out of habit or hobby will certainly enjoy a good novel or biography.

Other, more non-enthusiastic readers will appreciate a book which is hobby or photographically oriented.

Tree-Trimming Tips

When trimming your Christmas tree always work with the bulbs lighted. To highlight your tree's shape, it is best to purchase bulbs that have cords the same colors as branches and place lights themselves directly on branch ends.

HOLIDAY TIME SAVER

When cooking, double your favorite recipe and serve one half. Freeze the second for a pressured day. You'll have your dinner in just the time it takes to heat it up!

Double Payoff!!

Want Ads Pay

Both User And Reader!

Every day's a holiday being with our many friends. Thanks and best wishes for a Merry Christmas!

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Christmas Greetings

The Legend of The Christmas Angel

There is a beautiful legend about how Mary, the mother of Jesus, chooses children each Christmas to sing carols for the Holy Babe.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

May this holiday season bestow on you every blessing and happiness. Please accept our best wishes, and may we express our gratitude to you for your loyal patronage. Thank you!

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O Holy Night

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GOOD NEWS FOR HOMEMAKERS

By Shirley W. Walton Extension Agent

Best wishes to each of you for a joyous and safe holiday season. It has been a genuine pleasure to visit with you each week through this column.

I wish to express appreciation to the fine staff of the **Times-Virginian** for allowing this space and for their excellent cooperation and support of Appomattox County's Extension program.

A special thought for this Christmas season is as follows:

Psalm for a Woman at Christmas

The Lord is my Pace-setter,
I shall not rush;

He makes me stop and rest
for quiet intervals.

He provides me with images of
stillness which restore my
serenity;

He leads me in ways of
efficiency
Through calmness of mind,
And His guidance is peace.

Even though I have a great
many things to accomplish
each day,

I will not fret, for His presence
is here.

His timelessness, His all im
portance will keep me in
balance.

He prepares refreshment and
renewal in the midst of my
activity

By anointing my mind with his oils of tranquility.

My cup of joyous energy overflows.

Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruits of my hours,

For I shall walk in the pace of
Lord, and dwell in His house
forever.*

*from **Psalm 23, Several Versions** compiled by K. H. Strange, published by The Saint Andrews Press, Edinburgh.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May 1979 be a year filled with peace, happiness and good health for each of you.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK
Cinnamon Bubble

(For Christmas Morning Breakfast)

¾ cup nuts
10-12 Maraschino cherries (quartered)
1½ sticks of butter
½ cup brown sugar
1 cup white sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 pkg. frozen Parkhouse Dinner Rolls.Place ½ cup of nuts and cherries in bottom of an ungreased tube pan. Melt ½ stick of butter and ½ cup brown sugar and pour on top of cherries and nuts. Melt 1 stick of butter and add 1 cup of sugar and cinnamon. Roll frozen rolls in this mixture and place tightly around in pan. Sprinkle remaining nuts on top. Let rise overnight. Bake on 350 degrees F. for 30 - 35 minutes. Run knife aorund edges and invert **quickly** onto place.

This is a delicious time-saving recipe that is great for the family's special breakfast or a morning meeting coffee break. Cinnamon Bubble is a real time and energy saver.

PENS! PENS! PENS!
Black, Blue, Red, Green
THE TIMES-VIRGINIAN
COURT ST - APPOMATTOX

Don't put it in the attic

advertise it in the

classifieds

R. E. Lee Academy Students Make Deposit in Bank

Robert E. Lee Academy students visited Fidelity American Bank, Hillcrest Branch, on Thursday of last week. The students from Mrs. Myrick's class in past years have sent gifts to Miss Hazel Moon, a missionary in Africa, at Christmas. This year, each student made a deposit at Fidelity to Miss Moon's account. Shown in photo, left to right, are Phillip Edwards, Sandy Morris, Liz Pierce, L. D. Fleshman, Todd Neathawk, Bob Hanes, Kim Johnson, and Mrs. Myrick.

State Bar Committee Sets Dec. 15 Hearing On Unauthorized Practice of Law

RICHMOND, Dec. 12 - The Virginia State Bar Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee will hold a public hearing Friday (Dec. 15) in Richmond on its proposed advisory opinions concerning the unauthorized practice of law in the areas of real estate and title insurance, estate planning and tax practices, trial practice and debt collections.

Friday's hearing, the second of three being held by the bar committee, will start at 11 a.m. in Senate Room 4 at the State Capitol building with a presentation by a representative of the American Land Title Association and consideration of certain real estate practices. Estate planning and tax practices will be taken up at 1:30 p.m., with representatives appearing for the Virginia Bankers Association and the Virginia Society of CPA's. Trial practices will be considered at 3:30 p.m., and the area of debt collections at 4:30 p.m., including a presentation by the Commercial Law League of America.

The bar committee will hold its third and final public hearing Jan. 18 in Roanoke to further discuss the specific area of title insurance.

After reviewing comments received at the hearings, the Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee plans to submit its proposed opinions to the governing Council of the Virginia State Bar for its consideration and action. Those opinions approved by the Council will be submitted to the Supreme Court of Virginia for its review and possible adoption as rules of the Court, citing specific activities which are the practice of law in Virginia and which should be performed by lawyers rather than nonlawyers.

Heap on more wood! —
the wind is chill;
But let it whistle as
it will,
We'll keep our Christmas
merry still.

— Sir Walter Scott

'Tis the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial fire of charity in the heart.

— Washington Irving

A Festive Name

"Merry Christmas" in June? September? It is for a lovely young lady in Sacramento, California, whose name is truly Merry Cheree Christmas!

In answer to endless inquiries and as many jokes, this charming young woman never tires of explaining that her name really is Merry Christmas, and is spelled just that way. She is used to people thinking it's funny and the constant teasing, but enjoys the fun of it as much as others.

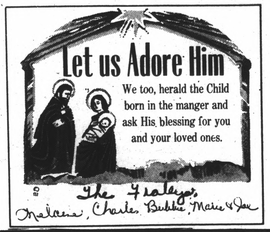
Miss Christmas, whose fame has spread all over the world, spends a considerable amount of time answering the many people who write her. She starts writing her Christmas cards in September.

Asked about marriage proposals and changing her name, Miss Christmas responded "Well, I've seriously thought about marriage a couple of times, but I was raised the old-fashioned way and I guess I'm looking for an old-fashioned type of person who thinks like I do. I really like the traditional things — like Christmas."

Remember . . . It's the Thought Behind the Gift That Counts!

Santa Says:

Gift your gal with fabulous fur. Collars to coats — the warmth and feel of luxurious fur is always a perfect way to say, "I love you."


Let us Adore Him
We too, herald the Child born in the manger and ask His blessing for you and your loved ones.
The Fraleys,
Melanie, Charles, Bubbie, Marie & Joe

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O Come All Ye Faithful

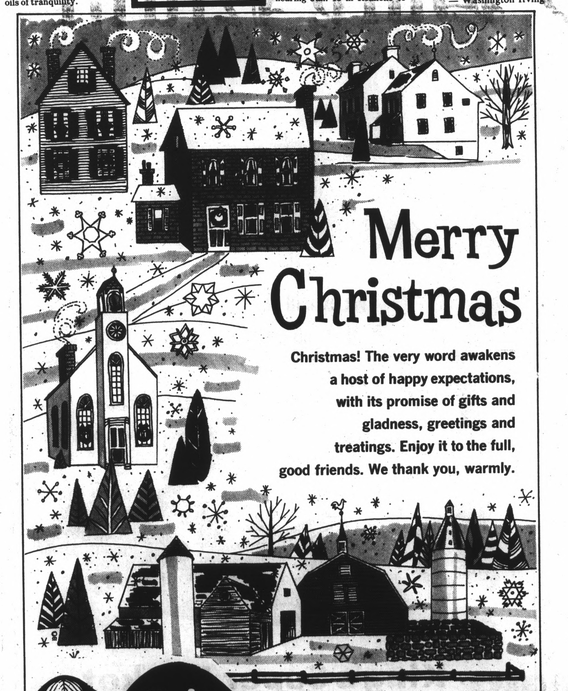
May all enjoy the beauty of this Holy Season.

Frances and C. H. Paulette

Greetings

May every home be filled with the peace that Christmas brings.

Gladys P. Johnson



Merry Christmas

Christmas! The very word awakens a host of happy expectations, with its promise of gifts and gladness, greetings and treatings. Enjoy it to the full, good friends. We thank you, warmly.

Dairy Queen

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